

30 NOVEMBER 1993



Flying Operations

AVIATION SERVICE

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Pages: 4

Distribution: F

1. The flying force is the heart of the Air Force's combat capability. Sustaining the preeminence of this force requires rigorous training and professional standards. Aviation service programs must ensure aircrew members, operational support fliers, and parachutists obtain and maintain the qualification and proficiency needed to perform their missions. Only highly qualified members are eligible to enter this force and to remain qualified for aviation and parachutist duty.

2. The Air Force will maintain sufficient qualified flying and parachutist personnel to accomplish its mission. Every level of flying and parachutist training must contribute to establishing and maintaining a force of unequaled quality.

2.1. Initial entry training screens and qualifies candidates for the high standards of flying and parachutist duty.

2.2. Mission qualification and continuation training sustain the aircrew and parachutist readiness levels required to accomplish the mission.

3. This directive establishes the following responsibilities and authorities:

3.1. The Air Force's Director of Operations (HQ USAF/XOO) establishes and oversees the Air Force's flying and parachutist programs.

3.2. Commanders of major commands provide subordinate units the guidance, criteria, and supervision to carry out training requirements.

3.3. Subordinate commanders ensure people comply with published policies and procedures.

3.4. Individual aircrew members and parachutists safely and effectively use the flying resources available to them. Training for flying and parachutist duties is voluntary, but once trained, people must treat these duties as military requirements.

4. Terms Explained:

4.1. **Aircrew.** The total complement of rated (pilots, navigators, observers, and flight surgeons) and nonrated personnel (1AXXX Air Force specialty codes) responsible for the safe ground and flight operation of the aircraft and onboard systems. Individuals must be on aeronautical orders and assigned to an authorized position according to AFI 65-503, *USAF Cost and Planning Factors*. Aircrew members perform their principal duties inflight. Duties must be essential to operating the aircraft or mission systems and associated equipment used for completing a mission.

4.2. **Mission Crew.** The total complement of personnel, other than aircrew, required for airborne operation of mission systems or for airborne duties essential to completing the aircraft's mission. Mission crewmembers must be on aeronautical orders and assigned to a mission crew position according to AFI 65-503.

4.3. **Operational Support Flier.** An individual whose primary, full-time duty does not require flying. However, the Air Force may require these individuals to fly on an occasional basis in order to perform a specific, essential in-flight duty which a regularly assigned aircrew or mission crewmember cannot perform. Duties may include, but are not limited to, in-flight test, operation or maintenance of aircraft systems or installed equipment. Commanders must place operational support fliers on aeronautical orders for them to receive hazardous duty pay.

5. The Air Force's policy on aviation service has its basis in public law (Aviation Career Incentive Act of 1974 and the Aviation Career Improvement Act of 1989, Executive Order 1117, Department of Defense (DoD) Directive 1300.6, *Conscientious Objectors*, August 20, 1971, with Changes 1 through 4; DoD Directive 1300.13, *Enlisted Crew Member Flying Duty*, July 14, 1979; DoD Directive 1340.4, *Proficiency Flying Programs*, July 17, 1972, with Change 1; and DoD Directive 7730.5, *Aviation Career Incentive Act of 1974 and Required Annual Report*, February 5, 1976, with Change 1; and *DoD Pay Manual*.

6. See **Attachment 1** for measures used to comply with this policy.

7. See **Attachment 2** for a list of interfacing publications containing related policies and procedures.

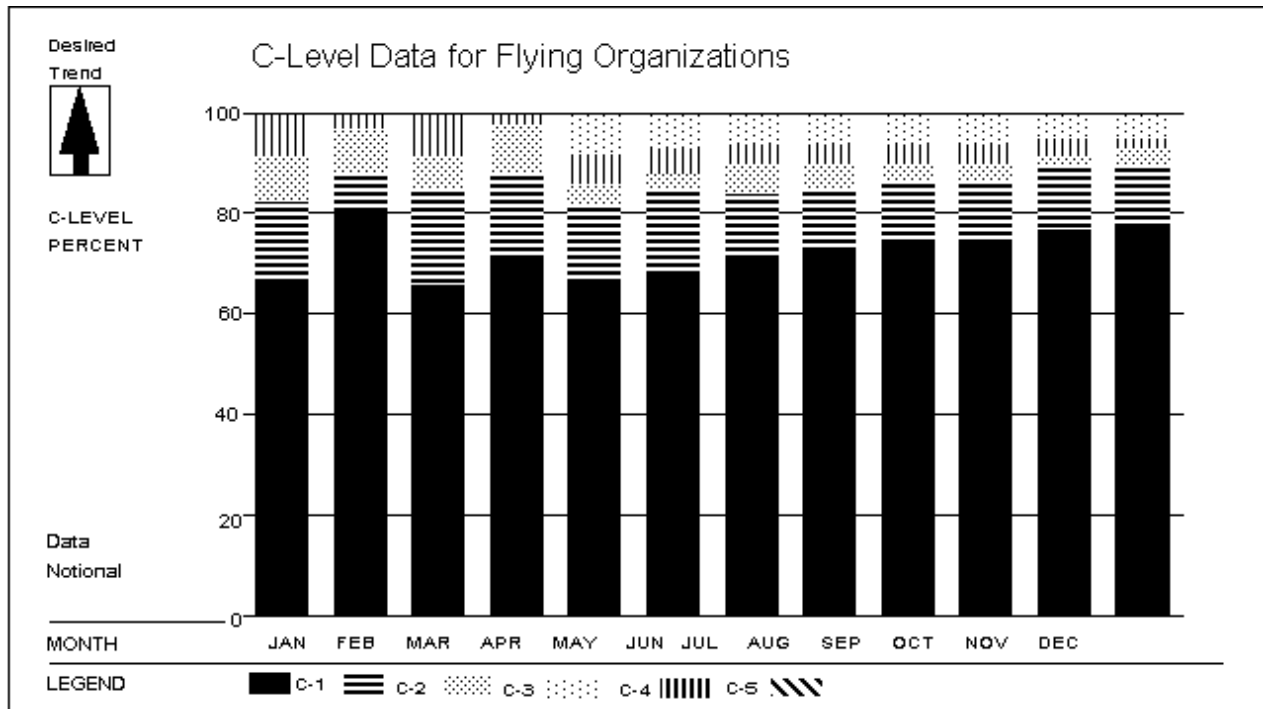
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Attachment 1

MEASURING AND DISPLAYING COMPLIANCE WITH POLICY

A1.1. HQ USAF/XOO assesses compliance with the policy on aviation service using SORTS category level (C-level) data. Measurements on flying organizations reporting below C-1 for aircrew personnel will be reviewed monthly and compared to the previous 11 months (figure A1.1). The desired trend is all flying organizations at level C-1 for aircrew personnel. The Air Force Operations Resource Management System and the Headquarters Operations Resource Information System provide the individual aviation service data necessary to complement SORTS information.

Figure A1.1. Sample Metric for C-Level Data for Flying Operations.



Attachment 2

INTERFACING PUBLICATIONS

A2.1. The following publications interface with this policy.

AFPD 10-2, *Readiness* (no former publication)

AFI 11-401, *Flight Management*, formerly AFR 60-1

AFI 11-402, *Aviation and Parachutist Service*, formerly AFRs 35-5 and 60-13

AFI 11-403, *Air Force Aerospace Physiological Training Program*, formerly AFR 50-27

AFI 11-404, *Centrifuge Training for High-G Aircrew*, formerly ACC/PACAF/USAFE/AFRES/ANGR 51-17

AFI 11-405, *Pilot-Physician Program*, formerly AFR 60-10

AFPD 36-22, *Military Training* (no former publication)

AFPD 36-29, *Military Standards Program* (no former publication)

AFI 36-2919, *Aeronautical and Parachutist Ratings and Badges*, formerly AFRs 35-5 and 60-13